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TO

Provide for the more effectual Representation of the Peerage of Ireland in the House of Lords.

A.D. 1877.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the more effectual representation of the Peerage of Ireland in the House of Lords:

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Number of representative Peers to be increased to thirty.

1. After the passing of this Act the number of Peers of Ireland who shall be elected to sit and vote on the part of Ireland in the House of Lords of the United Kingdom shall be increased from twenty-eight to thirty; but no writ for the election of Peers to make up the number of thirty shall issue until a vacancy shall occur among the existing representative Peers, so that there shall be three vacancies to be filled up.

In future there shall be no election for a representative Peer except on three vacancies.

2. No election to fill up a vacancy among the representative Peers of Ireland shall after the passing of this Act be held until there shall be three vacancies to be filled up.

At future elections representative Peers to be elected by cumulative voting.

3. At every election after the passing of this Act for a Peer to sit and vote on the part of Ireland in the House of Lords of the United Kingdom, every Peer entitled to vote at such election shall be entitled to three votes, and may give all such votes to any one Peer, or may distribute such votes among various Peers, as he may think fit; and the Peers who shall have the highest number of votes at such election shall be the Peers returned to sit and vote on the part of Ireland in the House of Lords of the United Kingdom.

Certain Irish Peers disqualified from voting at future elections for representative Peers.

4. At an election for a representative Peer of Ireland after the passing of this Act, it shall not be lawful for any Peer of Ireland who is also a Peer of England, or of Great Britain, or of the United Kingdom, or who shall become a Peer of Great Britain and Ireland, and who as such shall be entitled to an hereditary seat in the House of Lords of the United Kingdom, or for any Peer of Ireland who shall at the time have a seat in the Commons House of Parliament to vote for a representative Peer of Ireland.

[Bill 81.]

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A.D. 1877.

A representative Peer of Ireland becoming a Peer of the United Kingdom shall cease to be, and shall not be qualified to be, a representative Peer.

5. Every Peer of Ireland elected either before or after the passing of this Act to sit and vote on the part of Ireland in the House of Lords of the United Kingdom, who shall become either by creation or succession a Peer of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, shall thereupon cease and become disqualified to be or to be elected a representative Peer of Ireland; and the Lord High Chancellor or Keeper of the Great Seal of England shall, on the fact of such creation or succession being certified to him, under the hand and seal of two Lords Temporal of Parliament, cause a writ to issue for the election of a representative Peer of Ireland in the place and stead of a Peer who shall be so created, or shall have become by succession a Peer of the United Kingdom, so soon as two other vacancies shall occur among the representative Peers of Ireland, but not before.

Title of the Act.

6. This Act shall be cited for all purposes as "The Peerage of Ireland Act, 1877."

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Peerage of Ireland.

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To provide for the more effectual Representation of the Peerage of Ireland in the House of Lords.

(*Prepared and brought in by Sir Colman O'Loghlen and Lord Francis Conyngham.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,* 13 *February* 1877.

[Bill 81.]

Under 1 *oz.*

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